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ADVOCATE OF PEACE AND ARBITRATION.

BOSTON, APRIL, 1891.

R. B. HOWARD, EDITOR.

—The day of the Universal Peace Congress of 1891 has not yet been fixed, but November is the month in which it is to be held. Rome will then be salubrious and will doubtless be full of visitors.

—The Italian Senator, Professor Villari, who was one of the Presidents of the London Inter-Parliamentary Conference, has been appointed Minister of Education in the newly-formed Government of Italy.

—The English International Arbitration League closed this year with \$300 in the treasury.

—Alfred H. Love seems to have felt safe among the Indian warriors whom he with others recently welcomed to Philadelphia. He once refused to be a soldier and to pay a military tax.

—Correspondence has been opened between us and S. Bonghi, President, and C. Facelli, Secretary, at Rome as to the Universal Peace Congress to be held there in November.

—Friend George W. Taylor, who died in Philadelphia, Jan. 10, 1891, in his eighty-eighth year, was the publisher of Elihu Burritt's Peace paper called "The Citizen of the World." He conducted a free labor store and published a paper called the "Non-slaveholder" in earlier years. It was a peaceful closing that came to a life of active love.

—For years the floating debt of France, incurred by war and its preparations, has been constantly augmenting, and it has recently been met by a new loan which the French people have readily subscribed. It is satisfactory so far that public confidence is thus shown, but it is not satisfactory that, while the United States and Great Britain are paying off their debt, France is increasing hers.

She is weakening in everything except her army, while Germany is getting stronger in population and wealth. If the French would cultivate peace and not revenge they would prosper more.

—The Secretary of War has furnished to Congress a statement showing the cost of the campaign against the Sioux. This little war represents a cost of two million dollars. This sum would have sufficed to pay to the Sioux \$100,000 for twenty years.

—The rejection by the United States Senate of the international compact to keep firearms and liquors out of Africa is a national disgrace. It would be interesting to know just what "lobby" voices were raised against it. Of seventeen nations, ours alone failed to ratify the Treaty.

POPULARITY OF WARS.

One of the most disheartening obstacles to the abolition of war has been its popularity. No sooner is a war declared, for no matter what cause, the masses cry out for it and the vast majority of the people are swept away by its excitements. Mobs have often assailed those who opposed a war. Patriotism, pugilism, trade rivalries, race jealousies, the sentiment of revenge; indeed, nearly every passion of the human soul is aroused and pours its fiery force into the bloody conflict.

Now it is one of the brightest omens of our time, the legitimate fruit of the diffusion of knowledge and the general advance of mankind that the most hopeful resistance to war-scares with their conscriptions and taxes, their separations, diseases, wounds, corruptions and multiplied killings, comes from workingmen. The scholar and philanthropist are accompanied by the laboring classes in their demand for the substitution of moral for physical force.

TRUE GREATNESS.

Gibbon designates animal courage as "the cheapest and most common quality of human nature." We suppose the prize fighter killed in a ring contest the other day had this quality probably in a higher degree than many a scholar, statesman, poet, orator, preacher or philanthropist. By the rules of the ring Jesus Christ was an arrant coward. When they went about to kill him, he ran away! It follows then that a soldier must have some other quality if he is to be regarded as great by comparison with other men. The reasonableness of his position, the cause which he supports, the conscience he exercises are all to be considered when we enthrone a hero. He must be *morally right* or his bravery is to be classed with other characteristics consecrated to evil.

THE CIVIL WAR IN CHILI.

The "splendid navy" of Chili has revolted against its creator, the Government of Chili, and bombarded Iquique (Feb. 19), one of the principal commercial ports. The destruction of hotels, warehouses and other buildings and their contents, amounted to \$2,000,000 and 200 persons were killed at Iquique and 800 at Larapaca. The "peculiarities" of the war may be judged by the refusal of the authorities to allow those killed on the fleet to be taken ashore for burial. We are also told:

"The fight that caused the fire was a severe and bloody tragedy, and it would have been more prolonged had not the chiefs of the two parties reached an agreement under which the opposition leaders engaged to pay Colonel Soto \$10,000 to divide among his men, who were then joining the rebels. Under this arrangement the Government troops abandoned their arms and dispersed. Subsequently Colonel Soto was arrested and sent on board the Amazonas, accused of having distributed only \$1000 among his men and having retained the remaining \$9000."

It would seem that the United States and Great Britain ought to offer mediation to prevent further destruction of life and property.

CALLING EVIL GOOD.

Nothing is better calculated to disgust men with religion than using it as a cloak of vice and immorality. In January last a great brandy distillery near Kazan, Russia, was opened with services conducted by the clergy of the locality.

So many theatres thinly and attractively veil profanity, obscenity and lust; so many drunkard-making hotels set off their bars with beautiful colors and divert the consciences of their customers with entrancing music; so many moral ante-chambers to brothels excite passion by nude and libidinous paintings, and other works of art; so many so-called churches cultivate the spirit of gambling by appealing to chance and covetousness in their fairs and sales; and all of this is so unrebuked and so successful, that the temptation to hypocrisy for the sake of gain has become well nigh universal.

ITALY IN 1873 AND 1891.

In the month of December, 1873, Secretary J. B. Miles of the American Peace Society was in Rome. We have been permitted to read a letter written at the time in which he gave this interesting information.

"The Italian Chamber of Deputies on Monday, November 24, 1873, passed *unanimously and by a rising vote*, a motion in favor of arbitration and the settlement of the difficulties of nations by peaceful means. I had the pleasure of occupying in company with Henry Richard, Prof. Pierantoni and David Dudley Field, a seat in the Tribune of the Assembly-Room on the memorable afternoon upon which this noble action was taken. Would that I could describe the scene upon which I looked, or express the emotions which the spectacle awakened. The motion was introduced by Hon. Signor P. S. Mancini, one of the ablest and most noted members of the Chamber, and, indeed, one of the ablest and noblest men in all Italy.

"The brief speech with which he followed the introduction of his motion upon arbitration was very eloquent and was listened to with the closest and most sympathetic attention. At the conclusion of Signor Mancini's speech, Signor Visconti Venasta, Minister of Foreign Affairs, promptly arose, and in a short and elegant address expressed his hearty approval of the measure. He declared it to be the desire of the Italian Government to see peace reign in the world, and to see those rights on which the Italian nation is founded, spread their influence to other countries.

"All honor to the distinguished patriot and statesman, Mancini, and to the Italian Government for this glorious example which we trust will speedily be followed by the American Congress and by all the governments of Christendom."

PEACE BY TARIFFS.

The two opposite poles in the matter of Customs are Free Trade and Protection. In pure theory the principle of Free Trade is that each people should set itself to produce that which it can produce best and put at least cost on the markets of the world. In pure theory, also, the maxim of Protection is to protect against the competition of other nations by Customs duties on entry or exit, by premiums or drawbacks, all national products, raw or manufactured. In general terms we may therefore say that Free Trade is a *régime* of liberty, of expansion and of natural association favorable to all, inasmuch as it supposes each nation to cultivate and manufacture products and articles which climate and aptitude especially favor; while Protection, aiming for special purposes to enhance the price of certain articles creates between peoples a state of things more or less artificial, favorable to some, but opposed to the general interest. It is incontestable, however, that in certain cases the application of Free Trade would be impossible. In America, for instance, *there are countries where revenue is for the most part derived from Customs, and whose Government would not live twenty-four hours after their abolition.* Free Trade is the ideal of the peacemakers, inasmuch as it makes for association and liberty; and it is in this sense that we welcome the attention paid to the question of Customs in all civilized nations, convinced that the closer the question is studied the more will the conviction come home to the peoples that artificial restrictions to international exchanges of products and manufactures are prejudicial to the well-being and the friendly association of nations.—*Etats Unis d'Europe.*

In our judgment Free Trade should, like disarmament, be gradual. To annihilate at one blow legal and vested rights under which manufactories were established and to hurry such corporations into bankruptcy would be unjust. To strike down all revenue from customs would be equally so. Progressive reciprocity is the way out.

HOW NAVIES PROMOTE WAR.

In the recent excitement caused by the murder of eleven Italians in the Parish jail at New Orleans, certain of their countrymen in America boasted that Italy could bombard and destroy the cities of the United States by her superior navy. The spirit of revenge was rampant in them. It rejoiced in a fit instrument for a fell and bloody purpose. While these passionate people were foolish, they spoke sincerely.

Italy, in the opinion of her people, can fight the United States to revenge her supposed injuries because she has a navy! If she should do it, it would cost her one thousand times as many lives as were lost at New Orleans, and millions more dollars than her navy cost. Better to burn it! Her only possible gain (?) would be an unforgivable and rankling injury inflicted on a great and friendly nation, because a mob defied that government and committed murder for murder.